

Dear State Director:

You are invited to compete for a 2002 Team Nutrition (TN) Training Grant. TN Training Grants are one of the anchor delivery systems for supporting the implementation of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) nutrition requirements and the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* in Child Nutrition (CN) Program meals. TN Grants offer funding to State Agencies that administer the National School Lunch Program and/or the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

State agencies that administer the National School Lunch Program or the Child and Adult Care Food Program are eligible to apply for a TN Training Grant. Each State may submit only one application on behalf of all interested Child Nutrition State agencies in that State. States may apply individually, as a coalition within a State, or may establish a network and apply as a coalition of States.

To allow States more flexibility, the 2002 Team Nutrition Training Grant Request for Applications will allow State agencies to focus the grant on *State priorities* as long as the State agency uses one or more of TN's three behavior-oriented strategies and implements the strategies through one or more of the six communication channels or focuses all or part of their grant proposal on the USDA Healthy School Nutrition Environment (HSNE) Initiative, *Changing the Scene: Improving the School Nutrition Environment – A Guide to Local Action*. Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), on a trial basis, will also reduce the burden of recordkeeping and reporting for this grant cycle, by allowing State agencies awarded a grant to report on a six-month basis, rather than quarterly, for the two-year duration of the grant.

The 2002 TN Training grants will be funded for the period of September 1, 2002 through September 30, 2004. The maximum amount of funding awarded to individual States will be \$200,000; maximum amount of funding awarded for a coalition within a State will be \$200,000; and up to \$500,000 of funding will be awarded for a coalition of at least three different States.

In submitting your proposal, you may include travel expenses in your budget for one or more of grant project staff to attend a 2 ½ day National Nutrition Education Conference being planned by the Food and Nutrition Service for February 24-26, 2003 in Washington, D.C. to improve skills and foster collaboration of nutrition education efforts among FNS nutrition assistance programs. On February 27th, a one-day post-conference workshop for State agency Team Nutrition coordinators/personnel will be held for training on Comprehensive Implementation of Team Nutrition, based on the final report and Implementation Guidance developed from the three-year Team Nutrition Demonstration Projects.

Critical dates for TN Training Grants are as follows:

January 18, 2002	TN Training Grants for Healthy School Meals Request for Applications issued to State agencies
February 20	Intent to Submit an Application Form Due to FNS
April 19	Applications due to FNS
July	TN Training Grant Awards announced
September	TN Training Grants in place and funds available

Any questions regarding the Request for Applications should be directed to Diane Kriviski, Grants Management Division, (703) 305-2049.

Sincerely,

STANLEY C. GARNETT
Director
Child Nutrition Division

Enclosures

- Request for Application Instructions and Forms
- Team Nutrition Policy Statement (pending inclusion of SNDA II)
- FNS Regional Team Nutrition Contacts
- Team Nutrition On Line